

# Amesbury Economic Incentives Committee Meeting Minutes

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[Amesbury Economic Incentives Committee](#) of November 17, 2020 -- Online/COVID-era-- 2:00PM

## Attendees

Members: Angela Cleveland, Robert Laplante, Barbara Lorenc, Tim Kisielewski, Angel Wills, Pam Gilday

## Minutes

There were no minutes from our last meeting.

RECEIVED  
By Ellie at 8:04 am, 1/20/21

## Discussion

The following items were discussed per the [agenda](#):

- Select a meeting note taker - Pam
- Committee charter and TIF application process documents (Bill 2020-161 referral)
  - Reminder that at our last meeting, we discussed the latest draft versions of the two Economic Incentives documents (Charter for the committee and TIF process for developer applicants) represented in City Council bill [2020-161: Order to amend the Amesbury Economic Incentives Guidelines with updated program process and Committee Charter](#).
  - Bill 2020-161 had its first reading on November 10 and the bill was referred back to this committee by the City Council for its recommendation to the City Council. It was also referred to the Ordinance Committee for their review and recommendations.
  - These two documents are to ultimately (once approved) reside on the committee web page (<https://www.amesburyma.gov/economic-incentives-committee>).
  - Vote to send a positive recommendation back to City Council on the TIF application process document- motion by Angel, second by Barbara, unanimous.
  - Motion to send a positive recommendation back to City Council on Charter document - motion by Pam, second by Barbara - unanimous.
  - Angela to write up the recommendations and attend the 2nd reading/public hearing City Council meeting as well as the Ordinance Committee meeting.
- Agenda item " Achieving our mission: "Foster opportunities for economic development in Amesbury"--Discussion"
  - Our committee to be more than just focused on TIF application review
  - RE: Page 1 Guidelines of our charter - attract new businesses and development, foster redevelopment, graduate to grow from incubator space to bigger - members to be thinking about this larger focus going forward.
- Elm Street hotel project
  - Update: The developer/applicant has pulled their application from the Planning Board and notified the Mayor. That project is no longer in plan.
- East End 40R/Smart Growth Overlay District
  - City moving forward with investigation into that potential gateway area into Amesbury at Rte 110 and Clark's Road/Elm Street intersection area.
  - Overlay district would unlock that 4 corner area to provide mixed use and 40R housing and business opportunities via [SmartGrowth overlay district](#) zoning.
  - 1st public meeting on November 9 facilitated by Angie and Nipun with Mayor Gove - many area residents attended - meeting agenda at <https://www.amesburyma.gov/planning-board/events/105401>.

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- Public info gathering and sharing sessions are in plan for coming months. (NOTE: Next meeting was December 16 <https://www.amesburyma.gov/planning-board/events/106946>).
- A 40B is already approved (grandfathered from several years ago) in the area behind Friendly's and the Fairfield Inn as a 56 unit housing development.
- 40Rs offer financial incentives to a City that are not available with 40Bs.
- City web page for information about the potential "East End Smart Growth Overlay District" is <https://www.amesburyma.gov/community-economic-development/pages/east-end-smart-growth-overlay-district>.
- I AMesbury 2030 - and Amesbury Listens - <https://www.amesburyma.gov/mayors-office/webforms/amesbury-2030>
  - Visioning - focus groups around various topics around identity/community
  - There will be an economic development piece - please join.
  - Visioning - incorporating findings and inputs into smaller, focused plans .
  - Listening sessions in plan and steering committee being formed. See website.
  - Potential to use these sessions and findings in future as part of master planning.
- Status of Building Inspector and Chief Assessor
  - Denis is still working PT - Chief building inspector job is still posted/open.
  - Hired an assistant building inspector with potential for 2nd PT person.
  - Still looking for Chief Assessor but Jason is PT on Thursday nights and Friday mornings (NOTE: A Chief Assessor has since been hired).
- Next meeting - December 15, 2020 - (cancelled)

**Adjourn:** 3:00 PM

Minutes prepared by Pam Gilday on January 17, 2021